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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION	:	
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF	:	Administrative Action
	:	
SUSAN G. LORENZ, RN	:	ORDER OF SUSPENSION
License #26NR12497900	:	OF LICENSE
	:	
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN	:	
THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	
	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information indicating the following:

1. Susan G. Lorenz ("Respondent") is a Registered Professional Nurse (RN) in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all relevant times. (Exhibit A).
2. Respondent entered into a private letter agreement with the Board on or about September 19, 2014. The agreement

required, in part, that Respondent enroll in and comply with the Board's designated intervention program, the Recovery and Monitoring Program ("RAMP"), to undergo evaluation, monitoring, and treatment, including random screens. The agreement, which was to remain private and confidential unless and until the Board received reliable information that Respondent had violated any term, was to have the force and effect of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4. (Exhibit B).

3. Respondent underwent screens on October 20, 2014 and March 12, 2015 which yielded positive results for alcohol, a potentially addictive substance. Respondent acknowledged relapses in January 2015 and March 2015. (Exhibit C).

4. Respondent failed to undergo scheduled screens on November 10, 2014, January 12, 2015, and March 9, 2015. Respondent failed to check-in on a daily basis (27 missed check-ins from October 16, 2014 - April 2, 2015) with the online monitoring system which requires daily check-ins and randomly schedules screens. (Exhibit C).

5. Respondent failed to follow RAMP's recommendation for further treatment and to increase her level of care. (Exhibit C).

6. Based upon Respondent's noncompliance, RAMP discharged

Respondent from the program as of April 2, 2015. (Exhibit C).

7. RAMP cannot assure the Board or the public that Respondent is safe to practice. (Exhibit C).

8. On or about August 26, 2015, a communication was sent to Respondent at her address of record by overnight and regular mail, advising Respondent that the Board had received information indicating that she was not in compliance with the private letter agreement and with her agreement with RAMP. Respondent was further advised to provide the Board with proof of any inaccuracy in that information within two weeks. (Exhibit D). No response was received.

9. The private letter agreement signed by Respondent provided for automatic suspension of Respondent's nursing license upon receipt of reliable information indicating that Respondent had violated any term of the private letter agreement. The agreement states that Respondent may, upon notice to the Board, request a hearing to contest the automatic suspension; however, at any such hearing, the sole issue shall be whether any of the information received regarding Respondent's violation of the agreement was materially false. The Board also reserved the right to bring further disciplinary action. (Exhibit B).

10. Respondent violated the private letter agreement by: failing to refrain from the use of potentially addictive substances as evidenced by her positive screens and relapses; failing to undergo multiple scheduled screens; failing to follow the recommendation of RAMP for further treatment; and failing to successfully complete RAMP. Each violation of the private letter agreement constitutes a violation of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4, subjecting Respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e), and automatic suspension of her license as provided in the private letter agreement.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 1st day of December, 2015, HEREBY ORDERED that:

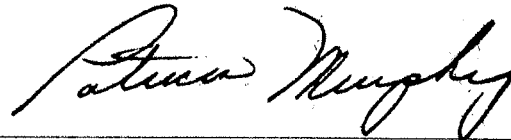
1. Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of New Jersey is hereby suspended for her violation of the terms of the private letter agreement as set forth above, which is a violation of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4 and N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

2. Respondent may, under the terms of the private letter agreement, request a hearing, upon notice, on the sole issue of whether information received that Respondent has failed to comply with the terms of the private letter agreement was materially false.

3. In the event that Respondent seeks reinstatement of her New Jersey nursing license at any future time, the Board shall not entertain any application for reinstatement without a demonstration by Respondent that she is fit and competent to practice, in full compliance with a Consent Order containing terms and conditions similar to the private letter agreement, and that a Board-approved evaluator supports her reinstatement.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia Murphy", written over a horizontal line.

Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President